

Wednesday 16 March 2022,

Dear Senate Select Committee on Job Security,

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Senate committee on Thursday 10 March 2022. As requested by the chair, Senator Sheldon, please find below details of the evidence I provided for his last question. I have also included details of my final point which I was unable to elaborate on due to the limited time (The Pacific Labour Facility's communication with the Fair Work Ombudsman on 22 December 2021).

PLF invited Country Liaison Officers (CLOs) to participate in the following FWO sessions in 2021:

16 August 2021 – FWO session 1

27 October 2021 – FWO session 2

FWO topics included

- Overview of the Fair Work Ombudsman's role in PLM
- FWO's Compliance and Enforcement Policy and Priorities
- FWO Workplace Compliance History Checks and Reporting
- Legislative Framework
- FWO investigations and audits
- Recent changes to be aware of
- Common/emerging compliance considerations

PLF has invited all CLOs to FWO's 3rd session held on 14 April 2022 (invitation sent 28 Feb 2022)

Topics will include

- Recent changes to pieceworker arrangements
- Navigating the FWO's Horticulture Showcase
- Understanding the Horticulture Award
- Using the Pay and Conditions Tool to calculate pay rates
- Accessing the FWO's FREE tools and resources.

Notification to FWO of CLOs and their role in labour mobility

As stated, I was not able to provide evidence of the Pacific Labour Facility's correspondence with the Fair Work Ombudsman. Please find below the correspondence dated 22 December 2021 where we provided FWO an explanation of the role CLOs play in labour mobility.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 22 December 2021 2:54 PM

To: Sala, George

Cc: FWO - SeasonalWorkerProgramme

; FWO - Pacific Labour Scheme

Subject: RE: Country Liaison Officers (CLO) in Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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OFFICIAL

Hi George

Thank you for your phone call today and providing the very helpful, contextual information about the role of CLOs in Australia.

We look forward to continuing our engagements with the CLOs in the new year.

Kind regards



Engagement Branch
FAIR WORK OMBUDSMAN

GPO Box 9887 Sydney NSW 2001 | L14, 175 Liverpool Street, Sydney NSW 2000

www.fairwork.gov.au | Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94 | [subscribe to email updates](#)

From: Sala, George
Sent: Wednesday, 22 December 2021 3:28 PM
To:
Subject: Country Liaison Officers (CLO) in Australia

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Dear

Thanks again for your time earlier, I appreciate the helpful information.

As mentioned, I am reaching out to provide some context to the role our Country Liaison Office who are included in your FWO Technical training sessions. Your team may also hear from them occasionally as on this occasion with the Samoan Liaison Officer.

CLOs are Government representatives from sending countries and are based in Australia, they report to the relevant in-country Ministry responsible for labour mobility. They are essentially the LSU's representative in Australia. Their key role is to support their respective nationals participating in labour mobility in Australia and build good relationships between their country and employers / stakeholders.

You can find the list of CLOs on our website below:

<https://www.palmscheme.gov.au/contact>

If you have any questions regarding the CLO network, feel free to let me know.

Kind regards,

George Salā

Please feel free to contact me if you require further clarification.

Respectfully,

George Salā
Australia Engagement Manager – Community Networks (Acting)